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OAPIA E-Newsletter

July 2003. Volume 2, Issue 7



Partnership

Merchant Workshops

OAPIA continues with the Merchant Workshop series with a Merchant Safety Workshop in Florida Market on 06/19/03. About 15 area merchants came to voice their concerns on various safety issues. H Street Community Development Corporation (HCDC) and Korean American Coalition (KAC) co-sponsored the workshop with OAPIA and the Office of Community Outreach, Office of Neighborhood Services, MPD 5D, Asian Liaison Unit, U.S. Attorney's Office also participated in the workshop and simultaneous interpretation in Korean and Chinese were provided. Among the issues discussed were barring notices, stay away orders, loitering, shoplifting, police patrolling, and street signs.

Merchants raised concerns about the barring (banning) notices and reporting procedure that requires personal information of barred individuals and a police officer to sign. MPD officers also stated barring-notice calls are often not at the top of the priority list. Among the recommendations from agencies' and police department representatives include investing in surveillance cameras from merchants, being proactive and persistent in reporting crime activities to authorities as well as cooperating at the trials.





Housing Workshop

Fair and affordable housing has always been a primary concern among DC low-income families. Recently, as the property value continues to increase, more landlords are considering selling their properties.

To help tenants understand their rights and responsibilities and those of the landlords and to supply the residents with the sufficient information on affordable housing, OAPIA held a housing workshop for Ward 1 Vietnamese residents on 06/26/03 at Sacred Heart Church. Department of Housing & Community Development, Housing Counseling Services, DC Housing Finance Agency, and Real Estate Agent were the agencies and organizations participated in the workshop. Among the issues discussed were renting rules and regulations, responsibilities of landlords and tenants, first right to purchase; Preparing to purchase a home: credit history, condos/single unit/town houses; Home Purchase Assistance Program: how to purchase a home for low income families: qualification requirements, location, process, counseling; and Financing: qualification requirements, down payment, and loans. Simultaneous interpretation into Vietnamese was provided for residents with limited English proficiency.

The event attracted about 30 residents and the Vietnamese American Television. The Housing Workshop coverage will air 07/06/03 at 5:30 p.m. on MHz Networks. Visit www.vietmaryland.com/tv for channel guide.



RESOURCES RESOURCES RESOURCES

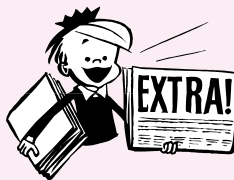
Being Proactive

OAPIA is constantly updating our database of community organizations, service providers, interpreters, translation services, volunteers, etc. Please contact us and let us know of your organization or any resources that you know of. Together, we can combine our efforts and resources make our city a better place. OAPIA maintains a listing of community-based organizations and media on our website. Visit www.apia.dc.gov



OAPIA Staff Update

- Grace Nam, OAPIA's summer intern from Cornell Law School, is currently working on a project about the on-going issues of DC immigrants. The project is aiming to create a handy reference booklet providing a brief and simplified list of legal resources of each issue ranging from housing, employment, health care, merchant issues, to neighborhood safety. The project will present concise information about legal rights of the community and relevant legislations.



Community News

OAPIA Staff Update

- Tracy Chichester, a summer intern, is compiling a guide of youth programs offered by the DC government agencies. The guide will list youth outreach programs sponsored by such agencies as the Metropolitan Police Department, Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Commission on the Arts and Humanities. Many of these programs offer the youth opportunities to see government operations firsthand and will also aid them in learning to become more responsible citizens. The guide will provide API youth with resources for becoming more active within the community.

Tracy is an undergraduate college student attending the University of Michigan. She is majoring in history and plans to graduate in 2004.

- The Asian American Government Executives Network (AAGEN) and the Library of Congress Asian American Association (LOC AAA), both members of the Coalition of Asian Pacific American Federal Employees Organizations (CAPAFEO), are pleased to announce the recent appointment of Dr. Hwa-Wei Lee as Chief of the Asian Division at the Library of Congress. Dr. Lee will be hosting an Open House of the Asian Division to reach out to the communities of the Greater Washington, D.C. area. *WHEN:* Saturday, July 12, 2003, 2:00-5:00 pm. *WHERE:* Asian Ready Room (LJ-150), Thomas Jefferson Building, Library of Congress, Washington, DC. For more information contact: Judy Lu, (202)-707-2385, julu@loc.gov



Employment

Employment

- Washington Convention Center Career Opportunities: Assistant Manager-Engineering Services, Account Executive, Event Attendant, Network Administrator, Security Officer. For more information, contact careers@dcconvention.com or call Stacy Ganister at 202-249-3107
- Metropolitan Police Department is constantly looking for bilingual staff. Contact MPD Office of Recruitment at 202-727-4261.
- Department of Public Works is constantly looking for Parking Officer. Visit the Reeves Center 4th Floor Office of Personnel to fill out an application reference announcement# KA (1802-056) and submit to the attention of Dee Gaines. Have to have a valid driver's license, no prior experience needed.
- The Asian American Government Executives Network (AAGEN) has the following vacancies of senior positions in public service: Assistant Commandant for Intelligence-US Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security; Senior System Administrator for Network Hardware, Congressional Research Service. For details, contact 202-707-5627. To learn more about AAGEN, visit www.aagen.org

Services For All

Did you know?

- ✓ **Department of Parks & Recreation** not only supervises and maintains area parks, community facilities, neighborhood recreation centers, and provides adaptive programs and facilities for challenged customers, but also coordinates a wide variety of recreational and educational programs such as art classes, child care services, sport leagues, swim lessons, summer camp, and senior citizen activities. For a list of activities, visit <http://www.dpr.dc.gov/services/index.asp> or contact (202) 673-7647
- ✓ **Refugee Resettlement Program of the Department of Human Services** provides social services, cash, and medical assistance to eligible refugees and their families through sub-grant arrangements with community-based non-profit agencies. Programs concentrate on employment, job placement, English language training, and support services. Call (202) 541-3949. Job development and placement services with developed resources help refugees find jobs. Clients develop individual employability plans and seek (IEP) placement in full-time positions at companies that offer benefits. (Part time work often develops into full time.) Services include 30, 60 and 90-day follow-ups as well as employment upgrades and professional positions where applicable.
- ✓ **Department of Health** will come to your community to set up mosquito traps and test for West Nile Virus free of charge. Protect your family and community by calling 202-535-2323 if you see mosquito around your place of residence.
- ✓ **The DC Tuition Assistance Grant (DC TAG)** is a grant that allows you to attend any public institution in the nation as if you're a resident of the school's state. You pay the low in-state tuition and the grant pays the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition up to \$10,000 a year. With a maximum of 5 award years that can amount to a lifetime of \$50,000, this grant makes affordable college tuition a reality. Visit http://seo.dc.gov/services/post_secondary_financial_assistance/tuition_assistance/fast_faqs.shtm#1 or call DC Tuition Assistance Grant Program office: 202-727-2824, 877-485-6751, or TTY 202-727-1675

FUNDING ALERT

Housing Funding. *The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)* announces funding for the following five housing categories: 1) Elderly Housing; 2) Special Needs Housing; 3) Preservation of Expiring Federal Subsidies; 4) New/Substantial Rehabilitation of Housing, (5 or more units); and, 5) Homeownership and Community Facilities. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations and for-profit developers. Applications deadline is 4pm on July 31, 2003. The RFP package, including all application materials and reference guidebook, can be obtained from DHCD, Development Finance Division, 801 North Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002, 2nd floor reception desk or DHCD website: www.dhcd.dc.gov. For more information, contact (202) 442-7280.

Free Facilities for Youth Enrichment Activities. *The DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)* announces a Request for Programs for organizations interested in using DPR facilities free of charge for enrichment programs designed to expand youth learning opportunities and to support their cognitive, social, emotional, physical and moral development. Free space in recreational facilities will be available from October 1, 2003 to September 30, 2004. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations with demonstrated track records of program implementation and measurable outcomes. The deadline for applications is July 11, 2003. For more information, contact Sherry C. Deane at (202) 282-0729. To access the application, go to: www.dpr.dc.gov and select "Request for Programs Application."

National Consumer and Consumer Supporter Self-Help Technical Assistance Centers. *The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)* announces funds to assist with the improvement of state and local level mental health service systems by providing the general public with necessary skills to foster self-help/self-management approaches. Eligible applicants include nonprofit entities, including faith-based organizations. The deadline for applications is August 7, 2003. Approximately \$1.865 million is available to fund 5 awards up to \$373,000 each. For more information, contact Risa S. Fox at (301) 443-3653 or rfox@samhsa.gov, or visit: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-14349.htm>

Title III Early Intervention Services Program, Existing Geographic Areas (EISEGA). *The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)/Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)* announces funds to support outpatient HIV early intervention and primary care services for low-income, medically underserved people in existing primary care systems. Eligible applicants include nonprofit entities that are currently funded under the Title III program whose project periods expire in FY04, and other nonprofit, faith-based and community organizations. The deadline for applications is July 21, 2003. Approximately \$71.27 million is available to fund 120 awards. For further information, contact HIV/AIDS Bureau, HRSA, at (301) 443-0493.

No Child Left Behind Supplemental Educational Services Program FY 2003-2004. *The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS)/Office of Federal Grants* announces funds to provide supplemental educational services to eligible students in Title I schools identified as in need of improvement. The purpose of these services is to increase the academic achievement of students in reading/language arts and mathematics. These services may include academic assistance such as tutoring, remediation and other educational interventions. Eligibility requirements are detailed in the Request for Applications (RFA). The deadline for applications is July 14, 2003 at 5:00 pm. It is anticipated that DCPS will have available approximately \$1,200 per year per pupil. Applications can be obtained from the Office of Research and Analysis (ORA), One Judiciary Square, 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 400 South, Washington, DC 20001. The RFA will be released on June 13, 2003, and will be available on the OCFO website, www.cfo.washingtondc.gov, no later than June 20, 2003. For additional information, please call ORA on (202) 727-7775.

Film Preservation. *The [National Film Preservation Foundation](http://www.filmpreservation.org)* invites applications for its preservation grants. Awards are made for laboratory work to preserve culturally and historically significant film materials. The grants target films made in the U.S. or by American citizens abroad and not protected by commercial interests. Eligible applicants include public and nonprofit archives, including those that are part of federal, state, or local government. The deadline for applications is July 18, 2003. Most preservation awards average in value from \$3,000-\$6,000. For further information, go to: <http://www.filmpreservation.org/grants/federal.html>

